

NEVADA STATE BOARD OF OPTOMETRY



MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING

December 15, 2022

1. **Roll Call, Call to Order, welcome, introductions.** President Mariah Smith, O.D. opened the Zoom meeting at 5:05 p.m. and asked for public comment. President Mariah Smith, O.D., Vice President Jeff Austin, O.D., and Board members Stephanie Lee, O.D., and Drew Johnson were in attendance. Also present were Executive Director Caren C. Jenkins, Board Counsel Rosalie Bordelove, Esq., and Licensing Specialist, Nancy Padilla. Public attendees included Executive Director Terri Ogden of the Nevada Optometric Association.
2. **Public Comment.** No public comments were offered.
3. **Consideration and approval of the proposed minutes of the of the September 8, 2022, Board meeting (materials).** Drew Johnson made a motion to accept the minutes from September 8, 2022 as presented. Jeff Austin, O.D. seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
4. **Presentation of annual agency Audit report, Board consideration and acceptance of the report, ratification of approval granted by President Mariah Smith on November 22, 2022. (materials).** Mr. Johnson and Dr. Smith each had conducted a detailed review of the audit and found it to be rather positive. Based on these reviews Dr. Smith approved and accepted the audit on 11/22/2022 to allow its submission to the Legislative Counsel Bureau by the 12/1/2022 deadline. Stephanie Lee, O.D. made a motion to ratify the audit report and approval. Jeff Austin, O.D. seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

5. **Consideration and approval of 2022 compensation adjustment and/or bonus for Board staff: Executive Director and Licensing Specialist.** A lively discussion was undertaken that centered on three main proposals. President Mariah Smith, O.D. proposed that the bonuses from 2022 of \$5000.00 to the Executive Director and \$2000.00 to the Licensing Specialist be duplicated. Stephanie Lee, O.D. proposed compensation in line with surrounding states where the compensation level is significantly higher. Drew Johnson proposed to wait until July 2023 and accept the Governor's COLA increase for state employees once it is known and backdate that adjustment to January 1, 2023. President Mariah Smith, O.D. moved to grant both the Executive Director and Licensing Specialist positions a 3% merit increase now and reassess the grant of a COLA increase in July after the Governor's announcement. Jeff Austin seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
6. **Update on intended 2023 Optometry BDR; discussion of proposed tele-optometry provisions; refinement of "direct-to-patient" application. (materials).** Dr. Mariah Smith outlined some limitations of the BDR's tele-optometry proposal as: Doctor remote exams would still be permissible. Patients must appear at an exam location and the data is sent to the doctor remotely. The doctor must interact with the patient real time. Patient must have had a comprehensive examination within the last two years. Patient must reside in Nevada. This topic will be discussed further in the next Board meeting held in January.
- President Mariah Smith, O.D. needed to leave the meeting early and at approximately 5:50 p.m. passed the gavel to Vice President Jeff Austin, O.D. to continue the meeting. A quorum remained present.
7. **Executive Director's Reports.**
- A. Status report regarding development of Thentia Cloud for Government and Thentia Payments implementation. Executive Director Jenkins reported has engaged in weekly meetings with Thentia since March 2022. We are expected to have a "beta" go-live mid-January 2023 where each Board member could enter an application for testing.
 - B. The ARBO conference will be in June 2023 in the Washington D.C. area. Anyone interested in attending should register soon.
 - C. Other reports/information. Caren Jenkins asked that the Board consider and communicate goals that they would like accomplished in the next year. She also invited the Board members to request their Senators or Assembly members sponsor our BDR as we need to secure a sponsor as soon as possible.
8. **Public Comment.** No public comment was offered.
9. **Adjournment.** Jeff Austin, O.D. moved to adjourn. Drew Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:03 PM.

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FY 2022-2023 Regular meeting schedule

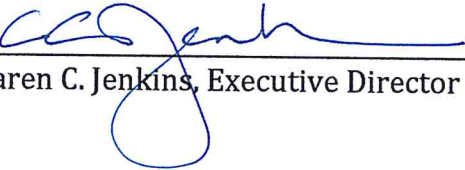
Thurs. February 23 – 8:30 am **ALL DAY** in Las Vegas or by Zoom

Thurs. April 20 -- Reg. Bd. meeting – Noon – Zoom or telephone

Thurs. June 22 – 8:30 am **ALL DAY** in Reno or by Zoom

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These minutes were considered and approved by majority vote of the Nevada State Board of Optometry at its meeting on February 23, 2023.



Caren C. Jenkins, Executive Director